[cxxix] C.K. Clarke, "A Study of 5,600 Cases Passing Through the Psychiatric Clinic of the Toronto General Hospital. A Special Study of 188 Clinic Cases -- Also a Survey of 767 Cases of Illegitimacy," Canadian Journal of Mental Hygiene 3 (July, 1921): 11-24.

[cxxx] Carolyn Strange, in Toronto's Girl Problem: The Perils and Pleasures of the City, 1880-1930 (Toronto: U of Toronto P, 1995), describes cases of young women who were judged defective or "feebleminded," apparently for no other reason than "unapologetic pursuit of good times" (141).

[cxxxi] See Jennifer Stephen, Mental Hygiene, Mental Defect and Mental Age: The `Feebleminded Woman' and the Work of the Toronto Psychiatric Clinic, 1900-1927 (Unpublished Master's Thesis, Graduate Department of Education, University of Toronto: Toronto, 1995). Stephen describes how "apparent sexual immorality in women was recast in medical and psychiatric terms, described as feeblemindedness, as delinquency, and as `mental degeneracy'; the `feebleminded woman' was, in turn alleged to be the primary agent in VD transmission" (35).

[cxxxii] Some patients seemed to want to introduce their doctors to the criminal underworld. A patient admitted on February 27, 1927 had perjured himself in order to protect a friend with whom he had forged some checks. The patient was an ex-convict who had spent 6 years in the Stoney Mountain Penitentiary in Manitoba for attacking a guard in gaol -- where he had been sent for forgery. He had been brought into the Asylum suffering from "delusions" that the police were constantly watching him, and that ordinary citizens were stool-pidgeons. He begins his letter (to Dr. Fletcher?) with the instruction to "read ... very carefully. So as to understand the full meaning of what I have to say ...." He proceeds to relate an episode in the life of a petty crook.

He and the friend had passed the checks then taken the early train from Portage la Prairie to Winnipeg. They had stayed in a Salvation Army Hotel where the friend had written out some more bad checks. The patient had then attempted to use them to purchase some merchandise in a "Jew store" in Winnipeg. He had had cash in his pocket. The proprietor had insisted that someone identify him. He had left and subsequently visited a series of establishments on Main Street, all of which had refused to cash his checks without suitable identification. Meanwhile someone had become suspicious.

He had realized that the police were following him and "walked on as if nothing had happened to me that day at all, in a natural way of course, but they still stuck to me." They had searched him in a vacant yard, found the checks, and demanded where his partner was. They had not avoided being seen together and had really been rather obvious: "every time I would come out of a store, the both of us would meet, then we would put our heads together to talk, about always trying some other Store." Two heads are not always better. Meanwhile the partner had fled: So naturally me not being in the Check Artist business before and being that my partner had given me and the police the slip of course, himself jumping aboard a street car and leaving me to bear the blunt of the outcome, of course I felt pretty sore against him.

After the police gave him some cigarettes and some "soft soap," he decided to "double cross" his "yellow streak of a partner." He only wishes he could have "squealed" on him in the Assizes Court, and "sent him down for a few years."

Doctor Fletcher describes him as a case of "Constitutional Inferiority." He was discharged on June 18, 1928.

[cxxxiii] Dr. C.K. Clarke, "Occupational Wanderers," MacLean's Magazine (April 15, 1922): 22-42.

[cxxxiv] The whole poems is as follows:

"Queen St. Asylum"
There's an institution on Queen west
Where we lunies are sent to rest
Of course we all have a screw luice [sic]